(a) the total outstanding short-term credit taken from commercial banks against banker's acceptance facilities in foreign exchange;

(b) whether the Government have used recent loans taken from the international Monetary Fund to liquidate a part of this short-term credit; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The total outstanding short-term credit taken from commercial banks against banker's acceptance facilities utilised for commodity imports by the canalising agencies on the basis of government authorisation as at the end of July 1991 was US $ 569.106 million.

(b) The loans taken from the International Monetary Fund are inflows in the Capital account of balance of payments and repayments of outstanding amounts of short-term credit is a continuous process and thus not linked to specific items of inflow on Capital account.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Smuggling of Silver

5315. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of silver seized while being smuggled out of the country during the last one year; and

(b) the number of persons arrested and the action taken by the Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Instances of smuggling of silver out of the country have not been reported during the last one year.

(b) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Export of Leather Goods

5316. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope of exporting leather and leather goods;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of leather goods, and

(c) the prospects of exporting leather goods during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Market promotion measures abroad and product development efforts in India for Indian leather goods to be competitive in world markets in terms of price and quality have helped in increasing exports and these measures are proposed to be continued and intensified, wherever required.

(c) It is expected that the exports of leather goods will continue to increase during the current financial year.

Violation of Pollution Control Rules In Delhi

5317. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state: